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NOTIFICATION BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL UNDER ARTICLE 12, PARAGRAPH 2, OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE WORK OF THE ORGANIZATION

LAW OF THE SEA

Letter dated 18 October 1996 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I wish to refer to the letter dated 26 August 1996 from the Permanent Representative of Kuwait to the United Nations (A/50/1029), containing the statement of the Government of Kuwait relating to certain provisions of the Act on the Marine Areas of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Persian Gulf and the Sea of Oman, 1993 ("Marine Areas Act"), and make the following clarifications:

1. Even before the enactment of the said Act, there existed a few acts and decrees pertaining to the Islamic Republic of Iran's rights and jurisdiction over its maritime areas, each of which dealt with one or more issues involving the law of the sea. The Marine Areas Act was drafted to consolidate and supplement all previous relevant legislative provisions into a single statutory instrument, taking into account the progressive development of the law of the sea, including the extension of the jurisdiction of coastal States.

2. It should be noted that the Islamic Republic of Iran has not as yet ratified the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. Nevertheless, as a signatory State, the Islamic Republic has not defeated the object and purpose of the Convention.

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I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 7, 10 and 24.

(Signed) Kamal KHARRAZI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative